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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/721,868

Applicant: KATO et al.

Filed: November 26, 2003

TC/AU: 3654

Examiner: E. Pico

Docket No.: 402886

Customer No.: 23548

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REQUEST FOR REFUND

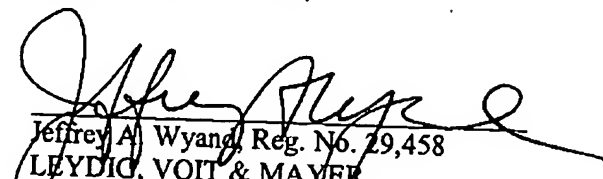
Sir:

Applicants request a refund of \$180 to Deposit Account 12-1216 for an improperly charged fee relating to an Information Disclosure Statement filed October 25, 2005.

No fee was payable with the Information Disclosure Statement as is apparent from the Information Disclosure Statement itself. The Information Disclosure Statement included publications cited within three months of the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement in a corresponding foreign patent application, namely the corresponding Japanese patent application. Moreover, the certification required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e) was provided so that no Patent Office fee was payable although a first action, but not a final rejection, had already issued in the referenced patent application.

Accordingly, the fee of \$180 that was charged to Deposit Account 12-1216 on November 3, 2005 was incorrect and should now be refunded.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: February 6, 2006
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